

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 03713 151145Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----151156Z 088992 /23-12

O R 151055Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9583  
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T BRUSSELS 03713

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, CG, BE  
SUBJECT: US AID TO ZAIRE

REF: STATE 83689

1. WE PASSED FOREIGN MINISTRY CHIEF OF AFRICAN AFFAIRS LEBRUN INFORMATION CONTAINED PARA 1 REFTEL ON APRIL 14.
2. WE FURTHER PROVIDED LEBRUN WITH THE CONSIDERATIONS CONTAINED PARA 3 REFTEL. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD BRING THESE POINTS TO THE ATTENTION OF FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE.
3. LEBRUN THEN PROVIDED US WITH FOLLOWING REACTION TO OUR PRESENTATION:

THE ARRIVAL OF MOROCCAN TROOPS IN KOLWEZI HAS CHANGED THE NATURE OF THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM IN ZAIRE IN TWO WAYS. FIRST, THE IMMEDIATE MILITARY THREAT TO KOLWEZI HAS BEEN EASED. THE BELGIANS ASSUME THAT THE MOROCCANS WOULD STAND AND FIGHT AT KOLWEZI TO

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 03713 151145Z

DEFEND THEIR EXIT ROUTE IF FOR NO OTHER REASON. THE BELGIANS ATTRIBUTE KATANGAN SUCCESSES TO DATE MORE TO THE FAILURE OF THE FAZ TO FIGHT THAN TO KATANGAN MILITARY PROWESS. THE BELGIANS DO NOT BELIEVE THE KATANGANS CAN OR WOULD DIRECTLY ATTACK A REAL MILITARY FORCE. SECONDLY, THE BREATHING SPACE THE MOROCCANS HAVE AFFORDED MOBUTU CAN PERMIT HIM TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM MORE CALMLY THIS WEEK THAN LAST WHEN HE HAD ONLY A DEFEATED ARMY TO LEAN ON.

THE BELGIANS ARE NOT SURE WHAT THE MOROCCANS WILL DO AFTER THEY GET ORGANIZED. THEY COULD ADVANCE ONTO TOWNS PRESENTLY HELD BY THE KATANGANS AND POSSIBLY TAKE THEM. THIS DOES NOT MEAN, HOWEVER, THAT THEY COULD DRIVE THE KATANGANS OUT OF SHABA AND THE TOWNS THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO RECAPTURE MIGHT WELL BE EMPTY AND OF ONLY LIMITED MILITARY VALUE.

THE BELGIANS BELIEVE THAT THE MAJOR UNKNOWN FACTOR IN THE SITUATION IS CUBAN INTENTIONS, WHICH THE BELGIANS DO NOT KNOW HOW TO EVALUATE (BRUSSELS 3711).

IT IS PREMATURE TO PLAN FOR AN INTERNAL RECONCILIATION WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE KATANGANS TO REMAIN IN SHABA OFFICIALLY (AND NOT GO BACK TO ANGOLA OR REMAIN AS AN UNDERGROUND MOVEMENT). THE KATANGANS KNOW FULL WELL WHAT HAPPENED TO OTHER KATANGANS WHO SURRENDERED IN KINDU IN 1967 AND IN BUKAVU IN 1968. THERE ARE TWO POSSIBILITIES, HOWEVER, WHICH MIGHT PERMIT A SOLUTION ALONG THESE LINES. THE FIRST IS A SOLUTION "A L'AFRICAIN," WHEREBY THE PRESENCE OF

THE KATANGANS IN SHABA IS TOLERATED BY THE GOZ AND THE PROBLEM GRADUALLY DISAPPEARS WITHOUT A FORMAL SETTLEMENT. THE BELGIANS NOTE THAT THE KATANGANS HAVE FOR YEARS DRIFTED BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN THEIR CAMPS IN ANGOLA AND THEIR HOME AREAS IN SHABA WITHOUT CAUSING SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR THEMSELVES OR FOR THE GOZ. THE SECOND POSSIBLE SOLUTION IS TO IMPLEMENT THE NETO-MOBUTU ACCORD FOR THE FULL DISARMAMENT OF THE KATANGANS AND THE FNLA.

THE BELGIANS AGREE FULLY WITH THE U.S. ANALYSIS THAT THE WORST POSSIBLE ACTION WOULD BE A DECISION TO PURSUE THE KATANGANS INTO ANGOLA OR TO FOSTER FNLA AND/OR FLEC OPERATIONS THERE.

THE BELGIANS DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ZAIRE'S ECONOMIC OR FINANCIAL SITUATION HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE KATANGAN INCURSION TO  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 03713 151145Z

DATE. THEY NOTE THAT COPPER PRODUCTION FROM KOLWEZI HAS CONTINUED UNABATED. THEY BELIEVE THAT MANGANESE PRODUCTION IN KATANGAN-HELD KISENGE IS ALSO CONTINUING AT NORMAL LEVELS ON THE BASIS THAT THE USE OF ELECTRIC POWER FURNISHED FROM A GENERATING PLANT AT KOLWEZI HAS NOT FALLEN OFF.

THE BELGIANS BELIEVE THAT THE IMMEDIATE DANGER TO THE ZAIRIAN ECONOMY IS THAT MOBUTU MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO TRY TO ARRANGE FOR SECRET CASH OR COMMODITY PURCHASES OF WEAPONS, USING UP WHAT RESOURCES HE HAS AND AGGRAVATING THE ECONOMIC SITUATION. THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT HAS NO INFORMATION THAT MOBUTU IS DOING SO IS SURE THAT NO ARMS HAVE BEEN PURCHASED IN THIS WAY IN BELGIUM. RENNER

SECRET

NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 15-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BRUSSE03713  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770131-0664  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BRUSSELS  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770454/aaaabusy.tel  
**Line Count:** 108  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 24f898a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 83689  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2798682  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US AID TO ZAIRE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MASS, CG, BE, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/24f898a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009